IN ROMANTIC DAYS. When California Was Ruled by Span-

toh Mexicans, Those who have read the "Happy Valley of Rasselus" can form some idea of the pasteral beauty of California and the Acadian happiness of the inhabflunts, prior to the discovery of gold in less, and the consequent rush of the adventurers of the world to "these peaceful shores." No country since the days of the Biblical patriarchs has presented such a scene of rural simplicity, peacefulness and general prosperity as California. The conquest by the Americans was almost bloodless, and of short duration. The hidalgos and priests who came from Spain and Mexico had selected the most fertile spots for their hacendes, and mission churches. The population, exclusive of Indians, was about thirty thousand, extending along the coast, the missions being San Diego, Les Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Luis ! Obispo, Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Jose, Yerba Buena (San Francisco), and Sonoma, a stretch of country about seven hundred miles in extent.

The ranches ranged in extent from one to eleven leagues or from 4,000 or 5,000 to 50,000 acres. The Antelgos, when they left their native land, had been given grants as an inducement to settle in this new country, and many of the ranches were baronial in their extent and surroundings, containing from 1,000 to 10,000 head of horned cattle and from 500 or 600 to 5,000 or 4 000 head of horses, and other stock in proportion. The proprietors were great dignituries, "lords to the manor born," maintaining large numbers of vassals, even greater than many of the fendal burous of old. These vassals were mainly Indians, who, under Mexican encior domos, did all of the work on the ranches. They were good harvesters and the best horse breakers in the world. The Indians were very numerous, docile even to servility and incapable of "self-government," and so the Mexicans practically enslaved them



AN OLD SPANISH-CALIFORNIA HOME

under a peonage system. They were paid off on Saturdays for their week's work, generally in aquardiente, when would drink, gamble and fight, and generally find their way to the

On the following Monday they were offered for sale for the following week for money due their employer or the prison keeper. The proprietor generlly bought his men in at from \$2 to \$3 And from week to week these Indian peons were publicly offered for sale in the pueblos, as negroslaves were at the southern auction marts. These sales were generally made on village fair days, and during festivals. On these days the guesto was both a slave mart and a beauty market-many purchasing wives.

These renoles had numerous major domos, or "bosses"-one for every de partment-like the court of royalty. The chief major domo had general supervision. Then there was a major domo for the unbroken horses, one for the broken horses; the major domo de Is eges was the steward of the house; the motor dema del campo had charge of the conseros, or mounted herders of the field; another had charge of the men who branded the eattle; another, of those who made rialas, or ropesevery department had its corps of men, over whom was a major-domo.

At daylight three men clad in the native costumes worn centuries ago in the Vegs of Granada, or on the plains of



MEDICAN RANCHERS.

Mercero, mounted on their spirited Bursen and on foot, report with hat in lunci to the chief major dome for duty As a general sending out detachments of troops, the major dome in chief gives orders to his au b-communders and they file away. off in detackments for their respective sintles. They have all had their coffee, and perhaps a strink of squardients. At diwert mine o'clock all recurs for breakfirst, the major domo of each detachment reporting what work has been done. The chief, hat in hand, in turn reports to the proprietor of the reach-After the army has Snished breakfast work is resumed. Dinner is called at twelve o'clock, and then the work, or sleep ander the shady trees of the run-

The seeks salesping, smoking and relisting stories lasts about two hours, and then to work until muniown. The night is possed in music, dancing, gambling, deinking, and sometimes excied with fighting. But, with the 'American inension" this Acadian simplicity van-

While these cancheres lived in baronial splendor, with the power of fendal lords, their hospitality was commer surately great. It was not for outward show, but was a general rule of the ountry, founded on a generous, hospitable spirit. A man could travel from San Diego to Sonoma without it costing him a dollar, even if he were a stranger. At each ranch where he stopped over night a fresh horse would be provided him on the morrow, he leaving his own until the return trip, which would be taken care of, and no charge. Perhaps he rode away a better horse than his own, and, if he did not return "muy bien (very well), horses are plen-



"UN MUCHACHO"-A HERDSBOY. tiful, and the senor is welcome." Religious fiestes were celebrated at the puebles (villages) and missions with great pomp and ceremony, and afforded these isolated people great relief from the monotony of ranch life. When the daughter of a ranchero married, the family gave a grand flests at the rancho or a baile at the pueblo or mission, to which the entire country was invited-people coming a distance of 100 and even 150 miles, according to the prominence of the rancheros.

Families traveled in their elaborate carretas and the cabelleros and senoritas rode their prancing steeds. These feasts lasted from one to three or four

days as the spirit moved the revelers. The bails, or ball, is a select gather ing of the rancheror' friends. He had provided provisions ample for a siege of several days, and the guests had brought along their boxes or trunks of clothing. The costume of the ladies was a dress of red, green or yellow silk. or white lawn skirt, worn over a red petticoat-a pretty combination of colors-with red or white satin slippers, and wearing the jewels of past generations, handed down from grandmother to the mother and to the daughter for perhaps centuries.

The senors were pantaloons of black cloth, open at the outer seams of the legs, the seams being laced with silken cords, fastened with tiny bell buttons, a close-fitting blue or black jacket, gold embroidered, a red sash around the waist and a "ruffled" bosom shirt.

The grand room, or sala, in which the baile takes place, has chair boards extending around the entire length on each side, where are seated the dancers and spectators. A favorite amusement, which afforded much flirtation, was the carnival of the cascarones. A cascarone is an egg shell filled with gilt paper of all colors, cut into infinitessiparts and liberally saturated with



cologne. A seporita breaks one of these over a senor's head, which gives it the appearance of being powdered with gold dust. This is a great compliment, and he is bound by all of the rules of courtesy to acknowledge it by breaking one over her head-perhaps he breaks a half dozen at once, and the effect is beautiful-spangles of red. blue, white, green, yellow and purple glistening in the senorita's head of coal black hair. When the amusement is at its height there is a battle of casearones, and the young people's heads and dresses glisten with the radiant colors, and the floor is covered with the painted egg shells--a battle of beauty and gallantry.

But the happy days of the Spanish baile are gone, with other amusements and sports of romantic California before the days of the "invasion of the Americano." The noisy fandango of the Mexican has succeeded the Spanish buile. The fandango is something like the Prench masquerade or the American "public grand ball"-everybody and anybody can go, and the best stay

The fandange is what the tourist and the native superficial observer sees, and they think they have seen something of ancient Spanish life. Very few of the customs of the ancient hidalgos are observed in these latter days, and there are very few of the old adobe ranch houses of these days now in existence. The modern adobe house is of different structure and construction-not built with a view to comfort, hospitality and pleasure, but merely to live in. The days of the baronial rancheror were the golden days of the romance of Cali-

J. M. SCANLAND. A Difficult Problem.

Weighing the earth is a problem

fust as valuable presents as I receive." So do I. My wife is going to give which has often interested and am med me a hundred-dollar dressing gown, scientists, and various efforts have been and I am going to give her a hundredmade to determine with some degree-of tollar check to pay for it."-Life.

Equal to the Emergency. Highest of all in Leavening Power .- Latest U. S. Gov't Report. Miss Pinkey -A toilet set is entirely

too young for my grandfather. Clerk in silver possity department) -We also have them with fewer teeth in the combs. -Jewelers' Weekly.

Something Spake. "I don't see why you like young Bashe Pfulls. He never says a word!" Money talks -Truth.

Lily White makes the sweetest bread, lightest breugt and the finest pastry. Try it, VALLEY CITY MILLIAMS CO.

A Herald of the Infant Year. Clip the last thirty years or more from the century, and the segment will represent the

accuracy the probable approximate weight of the globe on which we live.

In 1772 a series of curious experiments

was made by Prof. Maskelyne in Mount Schihallion, in Scotland, by which he determined the singular fact

that the attraction exerted by the

mountain mass on the plumb line

caused it to deviate nearly six seconds

from the perpendicular. Long and ab-

truse calculations followed, on the de-

tails of which it is not necessary to

dwell, but the result was taking the

and the weight of a cubic foot of water

as 62.53 pounds, the weight of the earth

was calculated to be 5,842,000,000,000,-

WOMEN AS CRIMINALS.

A Detective's Testimonry Regarding the

Sexes in Crime.

"While man is undoubtedly as a rule

the more prominent in crime, woman

on the other hand, is at once more cruel

and cunning in what she does," says a

noted detective in the San Francisco

"From the circumstance that a con

men are convicted of crime, the infer-

ence is drawn that in woman the crimi-

nal propensities are weaker or under

better control. Such a conclusion is.

cunning, but also with a coolness and

cruelty which have seldom been attrib-

"There are several reasons," contin-

ued the detective, "why so few women

have been convicted of crime. Man's

natural sympathy for her often causes

him to overlook important points

against her. If there are men in this

profession who are not susceptible to a

woman's plea, I, in my experience of

twenty-six years, have failed to find

"Another thing: It is seldom consid-

ered that girls are watched more care

fully than boys, and are under greater

restraint. Neither is it taken into ac

count that older females spend more of

their time at home, while males of their

own age are on the street or mingling

with persons whose habits are not always

of the best . Many of the temptations to

crime come from business complications,

in which women have little or no share,

as they spend most of their time at

home with their children and female

companions. Most homicides, you

know, are the results of anger excited

when persons are away from their homes and families, as violent quarrels

generally take place in the street or

barroom, and not in the parlor or sit-

"Now as to the cruelty and delibera-

tion of the female criminal. The his-

tory of crime shows that most of the

murders committed by women are those

perpetrated by the administration of

all crimes, but it is the one that women

were committed to the prisons and jails

of England and Wales 5,686 men and

2,764 women who had been convicted no

less than ten times previously. You see

"A partial explanation of this strange

state of things may be found in the fact

that women are more thorough-going

in all things, good, bad or indifferent,

than the men. They do nothing by

halves. Be the matter the construction

of a shortcake, the making of a crazy

quilt or the poisoning of a rival, woman

devotes all her time, knowledge and

"Then, again, a woman has le

chance of reformation than a man. The

latter can go to a strange or distant

place, raise whiskers or shave those he

had, assume a diferent name and com

mence life anew. He can generally find

employment, but with the woman it is

more difficult. Disguise is not so easy,

and if she goes to a different place

"A strange woman is always looked

upon with suspicion, as it is presumed

that she would prefer to live in the

town where she was brought up and

business for himself, but such is not the

case with a woman. If she is once dis-

covered her own sex are the first to

point their fingers at her, then up their

noses, and refuse to associate with her,

the result of which is that she becomes

hardened and callous and is again driv-

Yankee Notions to Spain.

little inventions sold by our street ped-

dlers are appreciated there. While

walking in Malaga he saw women shy-

something. Making haste to ascertain

the cause, he saw a man with a string

tied to a tiny mouse, which sought in

it glided over the walls. He repeatedly

jerked it back, however, and the tour-

ist was shocked until he heard the man

icano!" (American mechanical mouse.)

Measure for Measure.

"It's not the right sort of feeling,

perhaps, but at Christmas I like togive

some one is liable to recognize her.

talent to what she has in view.

the force of the comparison.

than men in all ages and countries.

ison. They show careful prepara-

uted to men.

them.

ting-room.

000,000,000 tons of 2,240 pounds each.

iameter of the earth as 7,912.41 miles

term of the unbounded popularity of Hometter's Stomach Bitters. The opening of the of a fresh Almanae of the fitters, in which the uses, derivation and actt in of the worldfamous medicine will be tactily set forth. Everybody should read it. The calendar and astronomical executations to be found in this broedure are always astonishingly accurate. and the statistics, illustrations, humor and other reading matter rich in interest and full of profit. The Hostetter Company of Pitts-burgh, Pa., publish it themselves. They employ more than sixty hands in the mech acies work, and more than eleven months in the year are consumed in its preparation. It can be obtained, without cost, of all drugglets and country craters, and is printed in English, German, French, Welsh, Norweldian, Swedish, Holland, Bohemian and Spanish.

Nature's Choice.

This is the name of a bandsomely illustrated pamphlet just gotten out by the North Galveston association. It tells about the remarkable advantages of their property, either to the settler or investor. W. H., Scribner, Grand Rapids, is the local agent of the company and would be pleased to call upon any person who wishes full in-formation about this property.

siderable less number of women than Mr. J. C. Doswell, one of the bes known and most respected citizens of Brownwood, Texas, suffered with diarrhoes for a long time and tried many different remedies without bene however, not borne out by the facts, for fit, until Chamberlain's Colie, Cholera when crimes have been traced to women and Diagrancea Remedy was used; that relieved him at once. For sale by F. J. Wurzburg, druggist, 58 Monroe it has been found, in the majority of cases, that the guilty deeds have been committed not only with systematic

Adulterated Wine

ls injurious, but nothing gives strength and tones up the stomach like a pure old port wine. "Royal Ruby Port," so called for its royal taste and ruby cofor, is on account of its purity, age and strength, particularly adapted for invalids, convalescents and the aged. Sold only in bottles (never in bulk) while cheap wine is sold by the gallon and gives a larger profit to the seller but less to the user. This wine is absolutely pure, and has the age without which no wine is fit to use. Be sure you get "Royal Ruby;" quart bottles, \$1; pints, 60 cents. Sold by White & White and Thum Bros. & Schmidt.

Mr. J. P. Blaize, an extensive real estate dealer in Des Moines, Iowa, nar-rowly escaped one of the severest attacks of pneumonia while in the north-ero part of the state during a recent blizzard, says the Saturday Review. Mr. Blaze had occasion to drive several miles during the storm and was so thoroughly chilled that he was unable to get warm, and inside of an hour after his return he was threatened with a severe case of pneumonia or lung fever. Mr. Blaze sent to the nearest drug store and got a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, of which he had often heard, and took a number of large doses. He says the effect was wonderful, and in a short time he was breathing quite easily. He kept on taking the medicine, and the next day was able to come to Des Moines. Mr. Blaze regards his cure as simply won-derful. For sale by F. J. Wurzburg, druggist, 58 Monroe street.

A Positive Fact

tion and great deliberation. In almost Ladies, do not delay your valuable time by waiting and suffering, but secure a bottle of Dullam's Great German Female Uterine Tonic and be cured of your monthly trouble either in old or young. It is the very best preparation I ever prescribed in my exevery instance treachery is employed, the victim being invited to partake of refreshments supplied by one who is presumed to be a friend. Murder by the administration of poison is considered the most foul and the darkest of tensive practice. It has given the best have been addicted to more generally results in the greatest number of cases of female troubles of any medicine that I ever used. I do not make a "Another very remarkable fact," continued the detective, "has recently been practice of using or recommending patent medicines, but this remedy is mentioned in a London paper by the chaplain of Clerkenwell jail. It is that prepared by a very competent physician and chemist of my acquaintance some criminals are practically incurable. From a table prepared by him it was shown that during last year there and I can cheerfully and conscience-ously recommend it as the best. A. C. FRUTH, M. D.,

Specialist of Diseases of Women, 90 East Madison St., Chicagy, Ill.

For a s re throat there is nothing better than a flannel bandage damp-ened with Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It will nearly always effect a cure in one night's time. This remedy is also s favorite for rheumatism and has cured many very severe cases. 50 cent bottles for sale by F. J. Wurzburg, druggist, 58 Monroe street.

A Child Killed.

Another child killd by the use of op-late given in the form of Soothing Syrup. Why mothers give their child-ren such deadly poison is supprising when they can relieve the child of its peculiar troubles by usind Dr. Acker's Baby Soother. It contains no opium or morphin. Sold by all druggists.

When on a vieit to lowa, Mr. K. Dalton of Luray, Russell county Kaneas, called at the laboratory of Chamberlain & Co., Des Moines, to show them his six-year-old boy, whose life had been saved by Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, it having cured him of a very severe attack of croup. Mr. Dal-ton is certain that it saved his boy's life and is enthusiastic in his praise of the Remedy. For sale by F. J. Wurz-burg, druggist, 58 Monroe street. where her old acquaintances are. A man gets credit for his enterprise if he goes to a new country and engages in a

There is nothing like Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil to quickly cure a cold or relieve hoarseness. Written by Mrs. M. J. Fellows, Burr Oak, St. Joseph county, Mich. Clipped from Canada "Presbyterian"

under signature of C. Blackett Robinson, proprietor: I was cared of oft-recurring billious headaches by Burdock An American traveler in Spain says Blood Butters.

that Yankee notions and the ingenious CURE FOR CROUP .- Use Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil according to directions. It is the best remedy for all sudden attacks of colds, pain and inflammation. and injurier. ing acress the street to get away from Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup was

used for years as a prescription by a successful physician. It is in all re spects the best cough medicine made today. Sold by all dealers on a guarvain to get away from its termenter as antee of satisfaction. The greatest worm destroyer on earth calling out: "Raten mecanico Amer-

is Duliam's Great German Worm Lozenges, only 25 cents per box. For sale at D. C. Scribner's drug stors. Ruy Dullam's Great German 15 cent

Liver Pills, forty in each package, at ber.bner's. Buy Dullsin's Great German 25 cent Cough Cure at D. C. Scribner's

Buy Dullam's Great German 15 cent Liver Pills, forty in each package, at Seribner's.

Muy Dullam's Great German 25 cent Cough Cure at D. C. Scribner's. Buy Dullam's Great German 15 cent Liver Pills, forty in each package, at

Buy Dullam's Great German 25 cent Cough Cure at D. C. Scr.bner's. Peckham's Croup Remedy cures whosping cough.

Bor Over Birty Tonce Hos. Window's Scotture Street has been use for children trething. It seems the chil collets the gime, slings at pain, chres win callets, and in the feat remedy for Glarrhee I works the tents a bottle **BLACKWELL'S** BULL DURHAM SMOKING TOBACCO. I'm an old smoker, and

have at one time or another tried all the different Smoking Tobaccos, but for a good smoke Bull Durham beats 'em all. A leading characteristic of Bull Durham has always

been the hold which it takes on old and fastidious smokers. What its excellence first secured, its uniformity has always retained, and it is, therefore, to-day as twenty-five years ago, the most popular Smoking Tobacco in the world. Get the genuine. Made only by

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Dullam's German Medicine company Gentlemen—I take great pleasure in testifying in behalf of Dullam's Great German Blood, Liver, Stomach and Kidney Cure. I can safely say that I never took such medicine as that cleanse the liver, stomach and kidneys. I was suffering for years with bilous-ness, indigestion and loss of appetite and sleep. One Bottle did for me more good than six months' other treatment, and I feel it my duty to testify in its benalf so others may try it and get cured. Your truly,
WARREN E. RUSSELL,
Contractor and Builder,
Flint, Mich.

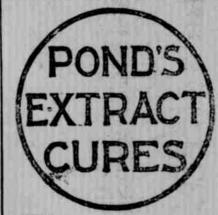
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Very Much Surprised. I have been affiscted with neuralgis I have been affisched with neuralgia for nearly two years, have tried physicians and all known remedies, but found no permanent relief until I tried a bottle of Dullam's Great German Liniment and it gave me instant and permanent relief. 25 cents per nottle. Signed, A. B. SEELL. Hamilton, Mich., April 11, 1891.

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It Cures Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, Croup, Infirences, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis and Asthma. A certain cure for Consumption in first stages, and a sure relief in advanced stages. Use at once. You will see the excellent effect after taking the first dose. Sold by dealers everywhere. Large bottles 50 cents and \$1.00.



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INCOMPARABLE PAPER.

> This is the season when everybody is selecting presents for others, and everyone is pleased to receive a kludly remembrance. It is not always an easy thing to select articles that fit our desires to give and our pocket books alike, and often when those nearest and dearest to us are provided for, there is often an absent friend or old timesequaintance to whom we would like to send something. Here, then, is an idea t at comes to the rescue. To at home or to the boy away, send a copy of the

52-PAGE **GRAND RAPIDS** HERALD.

The cost is trifling, yet the one who receives it will be pleased. Those who know little of Grand Rapids can learn much by a perusal of tra page. Any former resident would be de ighted with its pages of illustrations and reading matter. It you have already mailed one more, don't forget

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Prolicking like Cuttoren in a Massive St. Case: playing at see-saw, p aying at ball, r limit hoops, drawing chariots, ak pping rosaying prayers, forming pyramica, and me office acts with human intelligence.

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Extra Matinee Monday Afternoon, Dec. 26 Largest end Best Show Ever Presented to our Patrons. NEW COMPANY. A GORGEOUS PANTOMIME. TEMPEST AND SUNSHINE.

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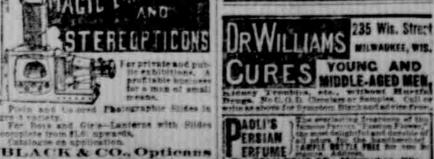


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